

English 201

James Engelhardt, ENGL 201, Spring 2004, Advanced Composition

English 201, Section One
The Personal is Rhetorical: Exploring the Essay
Spring 2004
Instructor: Engelhardt

Prerequisite: English 101 and 102
TTh 8:30-9:45 222 Hodges

RequiredTexts: Roorbach,Bill. *Contemporary Creative Nonfiction: TheArt of Truth*. New York: Oxford UP. 2001.
Williams, Joseph. *Style: Ten Lessons in Clarity and Grace*. New York: Longman. 2003.

Other materials: A three-ring binder and a spiral-bound notebook that will snap into the binder to facilitate organization. Keep drafts and free writes, both hard copies and on disk. All material to be turned in must be typed or printed out. Bring your copies, drafts and journal (free writes, reading responses, etc.) to class every day.

Attendance: Two absences are free. Four or more will result in failing the class. No late work will be accepted. Contact me as soon as you anticipate a problem. If something goes terribly wrong unexpectedly, contact the Office of the Dean of Student Life. They can fix everything.

Office Hours: I'll be available MW 12:00 to 1:30 in Stansbury 449. I will also be available immediately following class. Please talk to me. Or email me: jengelha@mix.wvu.edu.

Plagiarism: According to the Council of Writing Program Administrators, plagiarism "occurs when a writer deliberately uses someone else's language, ideas, or other original (not cornrnonknowledge) material without acknowledging its source." Don't do it.

Special Needs and Social Justice: If you have any special needs or concerns, please talk to me so that we can plan accommodations in agreement with WVU's commitment to social justice. Any suggestions on how to maintain a positive and open environment in this class will be appreciated.

Course Goals: (and assignments)

To find how the private, personal act of writing can, and does, interact with the public world. We'll look at ways to control presentation (and to some extent reception) and what the choices are that help us have that control. We'll try to understand the necessary rhetorical positions of the essay writer.

Journal 5%
Participation 5%
Portfolio 10%
Memoir 20%
Personal Essay 20%

Literary Journalism 20%
Creative Cultural Criticism 20%

Grading: You will be given alphabetic grades with each assignment along with brief comments on both strengths and weaknesses. If you are content with your grade, then you will not need to revise. If you would like to revisit this material before the end of the session, you can turn new versions in—along with your originals—at any point.

Presentation counts. Always use a standard, 12 point font (e.g., Times New Roman). Use 1 inch margins, black ink, and be sure to double space. We will be using MLA standards.

Class Schedule

(Subject to change—you are responsible for knowing the changes)

Week One

Tue 1/13 Getting settled

Home: CCN 1-11 (Introduction to the book and Journals). MFK Fischer 39-41.

Write 1 page personal journal entry

Thu 1/15 Discuss CCN.

Home: Ancient Rhetorics (Crowley and Hawhee) Chapter One—on electronic reserve. Another journal entry. From a memory or recent event. Bring two ads on Tues, one old, one new. Read Cheever 11-23.

Week Two

Tue 1/20 Discuss Ancient Rhetorics

Home: Read CCN 79-81 (Introduction to Memoir). Read Thurber 81-3.

Thu 1/22 Discuss Introduction and Thurber. Find topics. Assign Memoir.

Home: Read Dillard 95-105 and Pekar/Crumb 186-9

Week Three

Tue 1/27 Discuss Dillard and Pekar/Crumb.

Home: Read Kingston 106-113. Bring draft or outline for Th.

Thu 1/29 Discuss Kingston.

Home: Read Ancient Rhetorics (Crowley and Hawhee) Chapter Thirteen. Karr 143-155.

Week Four

Tue 2/3 Discuss Ancient Rhetorics, and Karr.

Home: Draft.

Thu 2/5 Workshop(s)

Home: Finish memoir. Read CCN 191-3.

Week Five

Tue 2/10 Memoir Due. Assign Personal Essay. Discuss Introduction to Personal Essay.

Home: Read Carruth 217-9.

Thu 2/12 Discuss Carruth.

Home: Ancient Rhetorics (Crowley and Hawhee) Chapter Three. Find magazine that publishes Personal Essays. Or website.

Week Six

Tue 2/17 Discuss Ancient Rhetorics.
Home: Read Abbott 21 1-7

Thu 2/19 Discuss Abbott.
Home: Read Kincaid 250-4. Read Lynch 270-5.

Week Seven

Tue 2/24 Discuss Kincaid and Lynch.
Home: Read Style 1-10.

Thu 2/26 Discuss Style. Workshops.
Home: Read Style 11-52. Finish draft. Bring other essays, writings for Tu.

Week Eight

Tue 3/2 Personal Essay Due. Start Literary Journalism.
Home: Read Style 54-75. Read Introduction to Literary Journalism 303-5.

Thu 3/4 Discuss Style and Introduction.
Home: Write 2 page proposal. Read Style 77-111. Read Wolfe 398-406.

Week Nine

Tue 3/9 Class Cancelled: Conferences

Thu 3/11 Proposals due. Discuss reading.
Home: Draft, research. Read Style 11 5- 1 34. Read Ehrenreich 370-89.

Not Really Week Ten

Tue 3/16 No Class: Spring Break

Thu 3/18 No Class: Spring Break

Week Ten

Tue 3/23 Workshops. Discuss Style and Ehrenreich.
Home: Read Style 135-181. Read Johnson 364-70.

Thu 3/25 Class Cancelled: Research

Week Eleven

Tue 3/30 Workshops
Home: Polish draft.

Thu 4/1 Literary Journalism due. Start Creative Cultural Criticism. Home: Read Style 185-208. Daum S 17-24.

Week Twelve

Tue 4/6 Discuss Style and Daum
Home: Read Malcolm 525-533.

Thu 4/S Discuss Malcolm.

Home: Prepare questions for conference. Read Wallace 534-563. ~~

Week Thirteen

Tue 4/13 ClassCancelled: Conferences

Thu 4/15 Discuss Wallace.

Home: Reading TBA

Week Fourteen

Tue 4/20 Discuss reading

Home: Assemble portfolio

Thu 4/22 Look at portfolio pieces Home: Polish all pieces

Week Fifteen

Tue 4/27 Final workshops, conferences

Home: Polish

Thu 4/29 Last Day! Head for the hills! You'll be lighter since you'll have given it all to me.